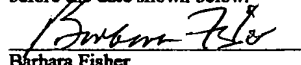


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Barbara Fisher

Date: 7 December 2004

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PCT International Application of )

HOEK, Arend, et al. )

Int. Appln No.: PCT/EP03/06114 )

Intl. Filing Date: 6 June 2003 )

SHAPED CATALYST PARTICLES FOR  
HYDROCARBON SYNTHESIS )

7 December 2004

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Box PCT (DO/EO/US)

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115**

Prior to taking up the case for examination, please amend the application as follows: